

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/619,331

Examiner

Grigory Gurshman

Applicant(s)

HORIKOSHI ET AL.

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 10/06/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-22 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
 - 2.1 The rejection of claims 3 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §112, has been overcome by Applicant's amendment of the instant claims.
 - 2.2 Referring to claims 1- 6, 21 and 22 Miller discloses a computer security key (see abstract). Miller teaches a computer security key provides security to a computer, which includes a computer bus. The computer is programmed to function with the security key. The security key includes a connector that is adapted to be coupled to the computer bus, a controller coupled to the connector, and a storage device coupled to the controller. The connector must be coupled to the computer bus for the computer to be operational. In addition, a unique key code is stored in the security key and the computer. The key code stored in the security key must match the key code stored in the computer for the computer to be operational. Further, an encrypted password is stored in the security key. A password is entered into the computer and sent to the security key where it is encrypted by the security key. The encrypted password stored in the security key must match the encrypted password entered into the computer for the computer to be operational (see abstract and Fig. 2).

While Miller teaches that the key code received from the key 40 is compared to the key code stored, he does not explicitly teach that computer settings comprising a detect enable bit.

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2.3 Referring to the instant claims Kou, discloses an apparatus and method for detecting and updating status of removable storage system using shared interrupt (see abstract and Figs. 1A – 1B). Kou teaches a system and method for detecting the removal of a removable storage medium from a removable storage media mechanism of a computer environment having set protocols and for obtaining parameter information of a newly inserted removable storage medium in an efficient and flexible manner. Specifically, embodiments of the present invention contemplate that parameter information is obtained only subsequent to detection of the removal of a removable storage medium (see abstract). Kou teaches that the IRQ bit of detection register 622 is set and the IRQ 14 generator 614 is induced to generate hardware interrupt IRQ 14 (see Figs. 6 and 9A).

Kou, however does not teach the use of “detect enable bit” and “history bit”. Kou simply teaches the use of control signal having alternating bit values, but does not teach comparison of the detect enable bit with the history bit. Therefore, the combination of Miller and Kou does not render the instant claims obvious.

2.4 Referring to the claims 7-20, the combination of Miller and Kou with Isaacman does not render the claims obvious for the same reasons.

3. In view of the reasons presented herein, claims 1-22 are in condition for allowance.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Grigory Gurshman whose telephone number is (571)272-3803. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 AM-5:30 PM.

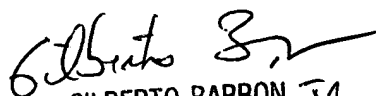
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (571)272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Grigory Gurshman
Examiner
Art Unit 2132

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GILBERTO BARRON JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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